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Beautiful Downtown Burbank



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During World War II, much of Burbank's sprawl of aircraft design and assembly plants was covered by camouflage netting that would make them appear to an attacking Japanese bomber pilot as a grid of neighborhood streets and tract houses.

Today its downtown folds around the sprawl of an IKEA store where Hollywood's starving artists – Gordon included – shop for discount Swedish furnishings to fill their apartments with beds, hand towels, wine glasses and end tables.



When Gordon was in school at UC Davis, we shopped with him at the IKEA in Sacramento. Someone else has that furniture now, but his apartment room in North Hollywood is filled with new DRÖNA, ÅFJÄRDEN and TYSSDAL, the Scandinavian names IKEA gives its

stuff to top off the Swedish feel that includes blue and gold national flags and a cafeteria, where the fare is based around the staples of meat balls, cream and cold fish.

Gordon needed more drawer space, so Saturday we shopped for a HEMNES (IKEA chests and wardrobes all carry Norwegian place names; Hemnes is a municipality of 4,600 near the Arctic Circle) that he found in the catalog. It fits exactly between his computer desk and the corner of the room and beneath the wall-mounted air conditioning unit.

Back at the apartment he assembled it in a couple of hours and had time for dinner before his performance in "The Devil's Bride," a sequel to Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing."

It was produced by Theatre Unleashed, the company of actors and fellow IKEA customers of which he's a member.



Box, set of 6
SKUBB
Black
▶ Helps you organize socks, belts and jewelry in your wardrobe or chest of drawers.

\$7 99



You may not care for the color or the style, but you cannot deny that \$7.99 for six SKUBB is a bargain. Below, SKUBB in a HEMNES drawer.



6-drawer dresser
MALM
63x30 3/4" black-brown
▶ If you want to organize inside you can complement with SKUBB box, set of 6.
▶ Smooth running drawers with pull-out stop.
▶ Real wood veneer will make this chest of drawers age gracefully.

\$179

NEW LOWER PRICE
Box
DRÖNA
13x15x13" black
▶ Easy to pull out and lift as the box has handles.
▶ Perfect for everything from newspapers to clothes.

\$4 99



At IKEA, you follow a path through the entire store taking notes on the items you wish to purchase. Then you enter a warehouse like the one at the end of *Raiders of the Lost Ark* (inset) to pull your stuff from inventory.



A HEMNES, finished and under construction (inset). Gordon picked up his skills roofing houses with his church youth group

Emily and Gordon at Griffith Park Observatory overlooking Gordon's town, Los Angeles.

